

§ 117.3 Reports by Board to the Administrator.

The Board shall submit reports of all marine accident investigations conducted by it to the Administrator for approval. Such reports shall set forth in detail the facts and circumstances surrounding the accident and bearing upon its proximate causation, the nature and extent of the injury, and the amount of damages, if any, occasioned by such injury. The reports shall include a transcript of the record of the Board's investigation, together with its findings and opinions respecting the accident. All findings and opinions of the Board shall be rendered by a full Board after a review of the entire transcript, even though the hearing may have been conducted by a single member of the Board or by a two-man Board. Reports of the Board do not become final until they are approved by the Administrator.

[63 FR 2142, Jan. 14, 1998]

§ 117.4 Reports of accidents by officer in command to Board.

The Master or other officer in command of a vessel shall, prior to the vessel's departure from Panama Canal waters, report in writing to the Board any accident involving his vessel in Canal waters that resulted in loss of life or serious personal injury or in substantial damage to property.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3207-0001)

[46 FR 63188, Dec. 30, 1981, as amended at 54 FR 29336, July 12, 1989]

§ 117.5 Control of wrecked, injured, or burning vessels.

When a vessel in the Panama Canal waters goes aground, or is wrecked, or is so injured that it is liable to become an obstruction in such waters, or is on fire, the Canal Operations Captain shall have the right to supervise and direct, or to take complete charge of and conduct, all operations which may be necessary to float the vessel, to clear the wreckage, to remove the injured vessel to a safe location, or to extinguish the fire, as the case may be. The Canal Operations Captain may, when necessary, take such action with-

out awaiting the permission of the owner or agent of the vessel, and may require the Master of the vessel and all persons under his supervision and control to place the vessel, and all equipment on board, at the disposal of the Canal Operations Captain without costs to the Commission. Unless the Panama Canal Commission is subsequently found or determined to be responsible for the accident or the condition necessitating action by the Canal Operations Captain, the necessary expenses incurred by the Commission in carrying out the provisions of this section shall be a proper charge against such vessel, her owners and her operators.

[46 FR 63188, Dec. 30, 1981, as amended at 55 FR 11909, Mar. 30, 1990]

§ 117.6 Liability of vessel for injury to Canal structures or equipment.

A vessel, or her owner or operator, shall be held liable for any injury to any structure, plant, or equipment of or pertaining to the Canal, the Panama Canal Commission or the United States when the injury is proximately caused by the negligence or fault of the vessel or its master or crew. No vessel shall make fast, or run any line, to any marker, buoy, beacon, or other aid to navigation; and a vessel shall so navigate as not to strike such aids in passing.

PART 119—LICENSING OF OFFICERS**Subpart A—General Provisions**

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